

Date: 3rd July 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014877/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please proceed without CAWN section then.

- a) The number of cases with a 'CSE flag' applied for the calendar years 2020 - 2024.***
- b) A breakdown by ethnicity of perpetrators for those cases applied a CSE flag.***
- c) The number of "live" group-based CSE investigations led by your force for the years 2020 - 2024, including those progressing through the criminal justice system. "Group based", in this context, means those crimes involving two or more offenders. If possible, broken down by the number of individuals in each "group"/gang.***
- d) The number of safeguarding referrals received 2020 - 2024 for children because of sexual exploitation concerns.***

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format for question D. To determine if a safeguarding referral relates to child sexual exploitation would require a manual review of each individual referrals received. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18 hours to provide the requested information.

Therefore, as per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

However, in accordance with Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Caveats:

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing. The systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold.

- This data contains crimes with a created date between 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2024 where the CSE flag was applied, excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB.
- Part b only includes crimes that have an offender attached. The same offender may appear on multiple crimes within this time period and may therefore be counted more than once.
- Offenders have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.

Question A

Year	Total
2020	1,453
2021	1,989
2022	2,015
2023	1,736
2024	1,552

Question B

Crime Person Self Declared Ethnicity at Time of Crime : Ethnicity Description	Offender Count
White - British	2767
Not Provided	1336
Not Stated	397
Asian - Pakistani	391
Asian - Any Other Asian Background	154
Black - African	120
White - Any Other White Background	88
Asian - Bangladeshi	69
Black - Any Other Black Background	61
Other - Any Other Ethnic Group	52
Asian - Indian	38

Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	37
Mixed - Any Other Mixed Background	32
White - Irish	23
Black - Caribbean	22
Mixed - White and Black African	19
Mixed - White and Asian	6
Other - Arab	5